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# Parole Investigator Correa Experienced in Tough Jobs

By RICHARD J. ROTH,  
Staff Writer.

Mathias F. Correa, who racked up a 99 percent efficiency mark as one of the youngest U.S. attorneys on record, is no novice at handling tough assignments.

Gov. Averell Harriman may have handed him his toughest job to date—and the one which could have the most enduring significance—when he picked the successful lawyer yesterday to head the special investigation into the state's parole system.

## Considered 'Tough.'

Mr. Correa had not reached his 31st birthday in 1911 when the late President Roosevelt appointed him federal prosecutor in the Southern District, succeeding John T. Cahill. From his days as a law school graduate until the present, Mr. Correa has been associated in public office and private law practice with Mr. Cahill.

Slipping iced tea in his office at 63 Wall St., the 47-year-old Mr. Correa recalled with a smile that he was "reckoned as a tough prosecutor" during his four years at Foley Square, two of them as Mr. Cahill's chief assistant and two in the top job.

He was born and raised in Brooklyn, where his father, Rodolfo Correa, was a prominent realtor and his maternal grandfather, Mathias Figueira, for whom he was named, was a physician for 50 years. He attended Brooklyn Prep, Fordham College and Columbia Law School.

## Ex-Footballer.

Mr. Correa, a six footer with the build of a tackle, played amateur football in his school days. During his Fordham days, however, he was not on the team. Those were the days the Rams imported most of their gridiron talent from New England, he recalled.

After passing his bar exams, he became associated with the firm of Cahill, Gordon, Zachry and Reindel, and aside from his war service and several assignments in public office—he has maintained that association. He is now a partner in the firm, currently known as Cahill, Gordon, Reindel & Ohl.

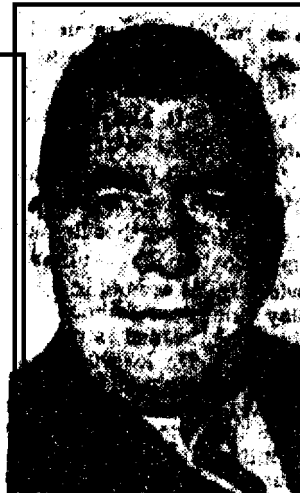


Photo by DeMarzio.

MATHIAS F. CORREA.

jurisdiction. Among them were the Joseph Schenck income tax trial, the case against labor racketeers Willie Bloff and George Browne and important tests of the draft law.

He resigned in June, 1942, to accept a commission as a first lieutenant in an Army anti-aircraft artillery outfit. He was soon assigned to Italy as military government prosecutor in the Naples area.

## Intelligence Inquiry.

He had known the late James W. Forrestal from his legal days in New York and when the latter became Secretary of the Navy, Mr. Correa was summoned as special assistant to

the cabinet officer. He switched from the Army to the Marine Corps to handle the job, and left the service at the end of 1945 as a lieutenant colonel.

In 1948 Mr. Correa was picked by former President Truman to serve on a three-man committee to investigate the national central intelligence set up for the National Security Council. His fellow committeemen were William Jackson and Allen W. Dulles, the past and present heads of the Central Intelligence Agency.

"Our report was so top-secret I couldn't even keep a copy for my own records," he said.

The CIA investigation, he pointed out, in many ways was similar to his latest assignment, aside from the subject matter.

The only pre-conception he will bring to the new inquiry, he said, will be the opinion that parole is an important aid in rehabilitating criminals.

Mr. Correa was married in 1945 to the former Louise Kennedy, daughter of a career medical officer in the Navy. They live on Dogwood lane in Rye with their three daughters, Mary Elizabeth, 10, Louise, 8, and Ann, 6.

He classifies himself as an "Independent Democrat." His only political fling was a candidacy a few years ago on the Democratic ticket for the Rye City Council. He had no illusions he would win.

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